



The Marianists

A Reflection on the Bicentenary of Marianist Education

By Bro. Bob Dzubinski

Music education has been my major ministry for 37 years. The last 25 years, I have devoted this ministry to urban Catholic schools. What I have come to learn is that the parents of our students, while they may have obstacles and trials special to their circumstances, they are as loving and devoted as any other parent.

I experience this at our conferences, music concerts and events where the parents, grandparents and entire families come out to encourage, not only the music program, but support for the entire school.

The smiles on the faces of the students and parents say it all.

Don't get me wrong, the challenges of life among our urban populations are many. The music teacher, classroom teacher, coach, principal and all involved in the ministry of Catholic education have struggles and heartaches when learning is disrupted. Nevertheless, the challenges of our students are met by dedicated professionals willing to implement appropriate methods and pedagogy that promote an atmosphere of learning and Catholic values. Plus, as a Marianist, I have additional support, namely a community of Brothers that help through daily prayer, through their experience and advice as teachers and their

friendship that encourage me through the tough times as well as celebrating the successful days, too.

In this bicentenary -200 years of Marianist education, I am thankful and proud to be in the classroom and be called “Brother”.

Why not come and join us?